

The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln

Louis Lambert Beaubian

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



HIGAN.

Detroit, Mich. (1891)

ORIGINAL MEMBERS.

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HISTORY OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH MICHIGAN.

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RANK AND NAME.	NATIVITY AND AGE.	OCCUPATION AND RESIDENCE.	
6. John J. Sullivan	Michigan, 26	Tinsmith, DetroitAu	ıg. 15
7. George W. Chilson			
8. Levi S. Freeman	.Michigan, 22	Blacksmith, YpsilantiAu	ıg. 3
Musicians—			_
William W. Graves	New York, 36	Painter, Detroit	5
Daniel D. Webster			13
Wagoner—			_
Patrick McGran	Ireland, 23	Teamster, Detroit	13
Privates:			•
August Albrecht	Prussia 28	Laborer Fronse	6
Abram Akey			13
* Louis L. Beaubien			13
Anthony Bondie			13
Daniel Bourassas			13
William S. Bronson			13
Joel R. Brace			13
William Bullock	-	-	_
James Burns			-
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Thomas Burns			6
Jasper Burt	•		
Edward Burkhans			ly 24
David H. Campbell			30
Henry Chapman			
Frederick Chavey			13
Patrick Connelly			7
Andrew J. Connor			5
Amos B. Cooley			5
Joseph Coryell			13
Shelden E. Crittenden			
John Dougherty	Ohio, 32	Shoemaker, Detroit A	
Iltid W. Evans			13
John M. Evans			
Alexander D. Fales			
Francis Flury		•	
Peter Ford		•	-
Adolph Fritsch		•	12
William S. Fox			
Edward Gohir		•	
Joseph Gohir	,	•	4
Charles Gochy			13
Sullivan D. Green			13
Charles E. Hale			II
John Hartmann			13
Ludwig Herzel			5
Christopher Henne			13
Erastus W. Hine			13
Elmer D. Holloway	New York, 45	. Wagonmaker, Salem	13

George M. Holloway James Hubbard.... Charles E. Jenner.. Fayette Jones..... John G. Klinck.... Irwin W. Knapp... William Kalsow.... George Krumbach Antoine La Blanc. Gideon Martin.... John McNish.... John B. Moores... Norbert Multhaup Myron Murdock . George F. Neef.. Isaac Nelson.... Solomon R. Niles Edwin E. Norton Frank H. Pixley Edwin Plass.... Royal L. Potter. Charles Raymon Elisha C. Reed . Julius A. Reyno Peter P. Rivard Joseph P. Rivar James Robertsc James D. Shear Henry Seele... Frank T. Shier William R. Shi-Eugene Sims . Albert L. Schm Nathan Smith Theodore Smi Willard A. Sr John Stoffold Abel P. Turn Josiah P. Tur Mathew Weh Marcus G. V Mordaunt W Ransford Wi

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RANK AND NAME.	NATIVITY AND AGE.	RESIDENCE.	LISTED.
George M. Holloway	New Jersey, 44	.Wagonmaker, Salem	Aug. 9
James Hubbard	Lenawee, 32	. Farmer, Olive	13
Charles E. Jenner			
Fayette Jones	.Vermont, 29	.Cooper, Van Buren	Aug. 8
John G. Klinck			
Irwin W. Knapp			_
William Kalsow		•	
George Krumbach			
Antoine La Blanc			
Gideon Martin			
John McNish			
John B. Moores			
Norbert Multhaupt			
Myron Murdock			
George F. Neef		•	
Isaac Nelson	• • • •		
Solomon R. Niles			
Edwin E. Norton (N. C. S.)			
Frank H. Pixley			
Edwin Plass			
Royal L. Potter			
Charles Raymond			
-			
Elisha C. Reed			•
Julius A. Reynolds			
Peter P. Rivard			
Joseph P. Rivard			
James Robertson			
James D. Shearer			
Henry Seele			
Frank T. Shier			
William R. Shier		•	•
Eugene Sims			
Albert L. Schmidt			
Nathan Smith			
Theodore Smith			
Willard A. Smith			
John Stoffold			
Abel P. Turner			
Josiah P. Turner			
Mathew Wehrle			
Marcus G. Wheeler	Wayne Co., 18	Farmer, Wayne Co	. 8
Mordaunt Williams			
Ransford Wilcox	Sharon, 24,	Miller, Rochester	. 11
William K. Yates	New York, 25	Clerk. Detroit	



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Twenty-Fourth Infantry.

The Twenty-fourth was recruited mostly in Wayne County and was rendezvoused at Detroit. The regiment was mustered into service Aug. 15, 1862.

At organization the field, staff and line officers were as follows:

Colonel, Henry A. Morrow, Detroit. Lieutenant Colonel, Mark Flanigan, Detroit. Major, Henry W. Nall, Detroit. Surgeon, John H. Beech, Coldwater. Assistant Surgeon, Charles C. Smith, Redford. Second Assistant Surgeon, Alexander Collar, Wayne. Adjutant, James J. Barnes, Detroit. Quartermaster, Digby V. Bell, Jr., Detroit. Chaplain, William C. Way, Plymouth.

A. Captain, Edwin B. Wight, Detroit. First Lieutenant, Richard S.

Dillon, Detroit. Second Lieutenant, Henry R. Whiting, Detroit.

B. Captain, Isaac W. Ingersoll, Detroit. First Lieutenant, William

H. Rexford, Detroit. Second Lieutenant, F. Augustus Buhl, Detroit.

C. Captain, Calvin B. Crosby, Plymouth. First Lieutenant, Charles A. Hoyt, Plymouth. Second Lieutenant, Winfield S. Safford, Plymouth.

D. Captain, William J. Speed, Detroit. First Lieutenant, John M. Far-

land, Detroit. Second Lieutenant, Charles C. Yemens, Redford.

E. Captain, James Cullen, Detroit. First Lieutenant, John J. Lennon,

Detroit. Second Lieutenant, Malachi J. O'Donnell, Detroit.

F. Captain, Albert M. Edwards, Detroit. First Lieutenant, Asa W. Sprague, Detroit. Second Lieutenant, Jacob M. Howard, Jr., Detroit. G. Captain. William A. Owen, Detroit. First Lieutenant, William

Hutchinson, Detroit. Second Lieutenant, George W. Burchell, Detroit.

H. Captain, Warren G. Vinton, Detroit. First Lieutenant, John C.

Merritt, Detroit. Second Lieutenant, Newell Grace, Redford.

I. Captain, George C. Gordon, Detroit. First Lieutenant, Henry P.

Kinney, Detroit. Second Lieutenant, John M. Gordon, Redford.

K. Captain, William W. Wight, Livonia. First Lieutenant, Walter H.

Wallace, Brownstown. Second Lieutenant, David Birrell, Detroit.

The Twenty-fourth left Detroit August 29, 1862, in command of Colonel Morrow to join the army of the Potomac, and arrived in Washington, D. C., September 2. The regiment occupied a number of different camps and made many long marches during September, October and November, and formed a part of the First Brigade, First Division, First Corps. It crossed the Rappahannock at Fredericksburg, December 12, and during the 13th and 14th supported a battery during the two days, being constantly under fire of the enemy's guns and losing quite heavily in killed and wounded. At Port Royal, on the 23d of April, the regiment made a brilliant attack, capturing a number of prisoners and driving the enemy from the place.

. The Twenty-fourth again crossed the Rappahannock on the 29th and drove the enemy from his works, capturing a number of prisoners with

considerable loss to the regiment in killed and wounded.

The Twenty-fourth entered upon the Pennsylvania campaign and was soon to experience all the horrors and the glory of one of the most desperate conflicts of the war. The Brigade to which the Twenty-fourth be-

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longed, by its steadiness under fire, by its prompt obedience to orders, by its determination to hold its ground under all circumstances, and its readiness to assault the enemy, had gained the name of the "Iron Brigade" through the army and that honorable distinction was accorded to it during the war and has passed as such into history.

The First Corps, of which the Twenty-fourth formed a part, marched from the Rappahannock through Pennsylvania and arrived at Gettysburg July 1st, where it was immediately engaged. The Division to which the Twenty-fourth belonged was one of the first infantry commands to come into action in the three days' battle. The first order received was to charge when the Twenty-fourth, with the balance of the Division, dashed forward and captured a large part of the Confederate General Archer's Brigade.

The Twenty-fourth was a part of the First Brigade and this Brigade now changed front and formed line of battle in McPherson's woods. The Confederates advanced in double lines, their numbers being sufficient to overlap and flank the Union forces and pouring a murderous fire into the line of blue, forced it slowly back upon a new position. The carnage here was frightful. The ground was strewn with the dead and wounded, four color bearers were killed and three wounded in holding the flag aloft. The Twenty-fourth went into action with 28 officers and 468 men, and during the first day of the battle 22 officers were killed or wounded, 71 enlisted men were killed, 223 men were wounded, a total loss of 316. Colonel Morrow received a severe scalp wound and fell into the hands of the enemy. He was removed to a house in Gettysburg and when the Confederates retreated he was left in that town. The regiment occupied Culp's Hill, the second and third days of the battle, but was not seriously engaged.

The regiment, in command of Captain Edwards, all the field officers having been killed or wounded, marched from the battlefield July 6, in pursuit of the retreating Confederates, crossed the Potomac and reached

the Rappahannock Aug. 1.

During the summer and fall, the regiment made a number of long marches, occupied important positions, and came in contact with the enemy at Mine Run where it distinguished itself by driving the enemy into his works and capturing a number of prisoners. It went into winter quarters at Culpepper, and on May 3, 1864, crossed the Rapidan and took part in the desperate struggle of the Wilderness.

During its engagements with the enemy in the wilds of the Wilderness it captured the colors of the Forty-eighth Virginia Infantry, together with a large number of prisoners, but at a cost of 18 killed, 46 wounded and 42 missing. Colonel Morrow was again severely wounded and the regiment passed in command of Captain Edwards, who had been promoted to Lieu-

tenant Colonel.

From the Wilderness the regiment marched to Spottsylvania, where it was constantly under fire until the 21st of May, losing 11 killed, 39 wounded. In crossing the North Anna on the 23d the regiment was attacked but repulsed the enemy with a loss to the Twenty-fourth of 3 killed, 8 wounded and 5 missing. In the advance upon Cold Harbor it met with considerable loss, and after crossing the James River made a successful assault upon the enemy at Petersburg, taking into action 120 men and losing 38 in killed and wounded.

The Twenty-fourth participated in the siege of Petersburg, meeting with considerable loss from the enemy's artillery and sharpshooters. Several times it was called upon to repel the attacks of the Confederates and obstinately held the ground, driving the enemy off with great slaughter.



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Sevs and ghter. October 27 it was engaged in the battle of Hatcher's Run and took part in several expeditions around Petersburg, and though reduced in number by constant losses, still fought with spirit and vigor. Its last serious engagement was at Dabney's Mills the 11th of February, 1865, when it was ordered to Baltimore, Md., for special duty, and from that city the regiment was sent to Springfield, Ill., where it did garrison duty at a camp rendezvous, and while there was escort at the funeral of President Lincoln.

June 19th the Twenty-fourth left Springfield for Detroit, Mich., where

it was mustered out and disbanded June 30, 1865.

During its term of service it took part in encounters with the enemy at Fredericksburg, Va., December 12 and 13, 1862; Port Royal, Va., April 23, 1863; Fitzhugh Crossing, April 29, 1863; Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863; Westmorland, Va., May 23, 1863; Gettysburg, Penn., July 1, 2 and 3, 1863; Mine Rune, Va., November 29, 1863; Raccoon Ford, Va., February 5, 1864; Wilderness, Va., May 5, 6 and 7, 1864; Spottsylvania, Va., May 10, 11 and 12, 1864; North Anna, Va., May 28, 1864; Tolopotomy, Va., May 30, 1864; Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, 1864; Bethesda Church, Va., June 2, 3 and 4, 1864; Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864; Weldon Railroad, Va., Aug. 18, 19, and 21, 1864; Hicksford, Va., December 9, 1864; Hatcher's Run, Va., October 27, 1864; Dabney's Mills, Va., February 6 and 7, 1865; siege of Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864, to February 11, 1865.

The Twenty-fourth had borne on its rolls 2,054 officers and men, while its loss was 313, as follows: 12 officers and 118 men killed in action, I officer and 38 men died of wounds, and 2 officers and 142 men of disease.

Total enrollment		 .2104
Killed in action		 . 125
Died of wounds		
Died in Confederate prisons.		
Died of disease		 . 10 9
Discharged for disability (wo	unds and disease)	 . 254





Baysley, Francis, Ecorse. Enlisted in company B, Twenty-fourth Infantry, Ang. 11, 1862, at Detroit, for 3 years, age 21. Mustered Aug. 13, 1862. Discharged for disability at Bell Plain, Va., March 31, 1863.

Beahm, Christopher, Detroit. Enlisted in company A, Twenty-fourth Infantry, July 26, 1862, at Detroit, for 3 years, age 18. Mustered Aug. 13, 1862. Died of disease at Brooks Station, Va., Dec. 19, 1862.

Beale, Alexander. See Bule, Alexander.

Beals, Francis. Enlisted in unassigned, Twenty-fourth Infantry, Sept. 27, 1864, at Amboy, for 3 years, age 27. Mustered Sept. 27, 1864. Sub stitute for John E. Benton. No further record.

Beardsley, Charles F. Enlisted in unassigned, Twenty-fourth Infantry, March 27, 1865, at Jackson, for 1 year, age 17. Mustered March 29, 1865. Mustered out at Detroit, Mich., June 28, 1865.

Beaubien, Louis L., Ecorse. Enlisted in company F, Twenty-fourth Infantry, Aug. 13, 1862, at Detroit, for 3 years, age 40. Mustered Aug. 15, 1862. Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps, May 15, 1864. Discharged at Washington, D. C., June 29, 1865, from company H, Twelfth, Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps.

Bedford, Henry, Detroit. Enlisted in company G, Twenty-fourth Infantry,
Dec. 30, 1863, at Detroit, for 3 years, age 20. Mustered Dec. 30, 1863.
Missing in action Dec. 9, 1864. Returned to regiment at Springfield,
Ill., April 15, 1865. Mustered out at Detroit, Mich., June 30, 1865.

Beech, John H., Coldwater. Entered service in Twenty-fourth Infantry, as Surgeon, at organization. Commissioned Aug. 15, 1862. Mustered Aug. 15, 1862. Acting Brigade Surgeon from Nov., 1863, to Feb., 1865. Resigned and honorably discharged April 4, 1865. Died at Coldwater. Mich. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Coldwater, Mich.

Beere, Daniel O. Enlisted in company B, Twenty-fourth Infantry, Aug. 9, 1862, at Detroit, for 3 years, age 26. Mustered Aug. 13, 1862. Deserted Aug. 16, 1862.

Behon, John H. See Beleon, John H.

Beldin, Newton. Enlisted in company E, Twenty-fourth Infantry, March 13, 1865, at Kalamazoo, for 1 year, age 34. Mustered March 14, 1865. Joined regiment at Springfield, Ill., March 21, 1865. Mustered out at Detroit, Mich., June 30, 1865.

Beleon, or Behon, John H. Enlisted in company E, Twenty-fourth Infanfantry, March 16, 1865, at Jackson, for 1 year, age 23. Mustered March 16, 1865. Joined regiment at Springfield, Ill., March 21, 1865. Mustered out at Detroit, Mich., June 30, 1865.

Belknap, Thomas, Armada. Enlisted in company G, Twenty-fourth Infantry, March 23, 1865, at Detroit, for 1 year, age 18. Mustered March 23, 1865. Mustered out at Detroit, Mich., June 30, 1865.

Bell, Digby V., Jr., Detroit. Entered service in Twenty-fourth Infantry, at organization, July 26, 1862, as First Lieutenant and Quartermaster, at Detroit, for 3 years, age 32. Commissioned July 26, 1862. Mustered Aug. 15. 1862. Acting Commissary: of Subsistence, Nov. 4, 1862. Resigned and honorably discharged Nov. 3, 1863. Died Feb. 16, 1890.

Bell, John. Enlisted in company B, Twenty-fourth Infantry, Aug. 25, 1864. at Kalamazoo, for 1 year, age 18. Mustered Aug. 25, 1864. Substitute for James M. Trutt. Joined regiment near Petersburg, Va., Sept. 24, 1864. Mustered out at Detroit, Mich., June 30, 1865.



Detroit Free Press - dated Sunday June 4, 1911

MAN WHO HELPED CARRY PRESIDENT LINCOLN FROM FORD'S THEATER IN WASHINGTON, DEAD IN ECORSE

Louis L. Beaubien, aged 89, a civil war Veteran who assisted in carrying President Lincoln out of Ford's theater in Washington after he had been made the victim of Booth's bullet, and who stood guard at the house when the President died, died at his home, High and Labadie streets, at 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. He had been ill several weeks and the end was not entirely unexpected.

With Company F. Twenty-fourth Michigan Infantry, Mr. Beaubien was at a barracks in Washington the night of the assassination. He was on sentry duty when a messenger dashed up with the announcement of the shooting, and his regiment went at "double quick" to the theater.

Mr. Beaubien was the son of one of the French pioneer families down the river and in his youth he was known as a skillful hunter. He was a member of F.A. Buhl Post, G.A.R. He leaves a widow and the following children: Louis, who is the village treasurer: Barney and Mrs. Mary Beaubien, of Ecorse: Robert, of Bay City: Henry, Alfred and Mrs. Josie Campau, of Detroit. Robert, of Dayton, OH. and Mrs. Hattie Beaubien, of Rockwood. He also leaves a brother, Henry Beaubien of Bay City.

The funeral will be held from St. Francis Xavier's church, Ecorse, at 8 o'clock Monday morning and interment will take place at Ecorse cemetary.



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Mr. Be ublen was the son of one of the French pioneer families down the river and in his youth he was known as a skillful hunter. He was a member of F. A. Buhl Post, G. A. R. He leaves a vidow and the following chil-dren: Louis, who is the village treas-urer: Barney and Mrs. Mary Beaubien of Brorse Robert, of Bay lity, Herrv. Alfred and Mrs Josle Campau, of Detroit Robert of lighted O. act ting Het to Beather of Beath

He she leaves a brother, he . ". Leave blen, of bay City.

The funeral will be held from St.

Prancis Tayler's church, Ecorse, at 8 ment will take place at Ecorse ce o'clook Koucky morning and inter- terre





from Yearse pold a work of the P secol yest principle to his successor. Mr. of Mr. Marry the two having been intimate personal and professional trisody since the young strormey began practice in Wyspidotte.

The retains city attorney has renthe city of Wyandotte, in varying ca-

He was appointed city attorney in 1808, serving for three years. In 1910 he served on the charter commission that formulated the commission form of government for Wyandotte. In 1911 he was elected mayor; serving three terms from 1911 to 1916. During his incumbency of this office he effected a very real economy by donating his services as city attorney, saving the tempayers considerable money. At their time too, the mayor's salary was only a mere pietance, the head of the city government being supposed to get his reward in giery.

He again, served as city attorney from 1920 to 1922. In the latter year he was mamed as city assesser, continuing in thut office for four years,

until 1926.

Upon the completion of the splendid Wyandetre General hospital, he was appointed to the governing board of much as to any other person, is due cre dit for placing the hospital upon the fully accredited list of the American College of Surgeons, a position which has happain been maintained by suc-

ceeding boards.
His latest public service, as our aderacknow, was in the position of attorney, a post which he has filled since 1928.

oneil did a fine and just thing ing Mr. Marr on Tuesday

Beaubien, aged 88. Louis L. lived at High and Labadie street Ecorse, died at his home Saturday termoon. He was an old soldler and pioneer settler of the down-river; to



LOUIS L. BRAUBIEN

tiga. He was a member of Co. F. Ewenty-fourth Michigan infantry, stationed at Washington when President Lincoln was assassinated. He was a member of the G. A. R. F. A. Bubl post, and is survived by his widow and the following children: Louis. who is the village treasurer; Barney, Edmund. Heary, Aifred and Alex. Beaubien, Mrs. Napoleon Beauhien, Mrs Josie Campau, and Mrs. Hattle Resobien.

Funeral services were beld at St. Francia Xavier's church on Monday

RUBY BISHOP

The following press dispatch : Los Angeles will be of interest to ! andotte people, where Miss Bish parents formerly resided. Miss 10is a niece of Clark W. Bishop, 62 \ andotte and Grosse lie.

Bill Tilden has selected 17-y ar-Ruby Bishop for a major role in new moving picture, but the Califer girl is paying for her own lunciathe Country club to maintain her ateur standing. In fact, she care stipplated she was to receive un pensation whatever for her with Tilden's troupe on the ! geles Tennis club lot.

Tilden started to work here iately after his cross-countr tour with Karel Kezeluli. He cided the girl he wanted for ture was Miss Bishop, who a name for herself by her keep on even terms with plays the caliber of Dorothy W Carolyn Babcock, who are ra Nos. 3 and 4 girl players in the try on the official list of the ! States Lawn Tennis association.

Since she does not lose her am standing, Miss Bishop will be an compete in the east this summer family has taken a house on the Shore, Mass, and she is planning play in the more important to ments of the east.

Miss Bishop is the daughter of

and Mrs. Jerome H. Bishop, of a dena. She has a brother, Jerone now studying at Harvard. A.

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MATT. Horul ir apf serWyandotte News Herald - June 9, 1911 Wyandotte, Michigan

Pair with local ties aided Lincoln

By Jim Michels

STAFF WRITER

Most Americans know the story surrounding the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, but not many can claim that their relatives were at the scene.

Two Downriver women have ancestors who helped carry the slain president from his private box in Booth Theatre to a private home, where Lincoln was later pronounced dead.

It was a long and detailed process, but Mary Kalamas of Lincoln Park was able to identify five of the six men who belond move the slain President that night. The men were Union troopers and members of a division of the Pennsylvania Light Artillery.

One of the men was Louis Lambert Beaubien, Kalamas' great-great-grandfather. Another, Jabez Griffiths, was the grandfather of Helen Horvath of Trenton.

"I read something which lead me to Helen and as far as my ancestor, I was doing some research when I came upon him," said Kalamas, a member of the Downriver

Genealogy Scolety.

Kalamas has researched most of her family tree while Horvath discovered her grandfather's involvement in a much different way.

"I've known about his involvement on that evening all of my life," Horvath said. "I got my information from a news article, plus my mother talked a lot about it."

Beaubien, born in Detroit where Beaubien St. is named in his honor, like Griffiths, had a productive and illustrious military career. Both men

(See RELATIVES-Page 10-A)

ers track down Shamrocks/Sports • Abused child clears aw

-Relatives-

(Continued from Page 1-A)

died in the 1300's and Beaubien is buried in the Ecorse Cemetery.

Both women are proud of their past heritage and the involvement their ancestry had on that April night. Kalamas intends to pursue more projects on the subject and will have her story on the five men published in her society's newsletter. She is currently working on other books and has hopes that the information will be useful to other writers who deal in

Lincoln history.

Horvath is just happy knowing the stories about her grandfather, the fact that they are available to her and her family.

"Thanks to Mary, I was able to get all the stories on him and now I have sent them to all my family members," Horvath said. "Nobody used to believe us, but they have to now. I'm sure my family and our children will treasure these stories for years to come."





A CONVERSATION WITH...

This couple won't forget the Civil War

By JON PEPPER
Free Press Staff Writer

There are times when George Kalamas wishes he were in the land of cotton. And he doesn't just whistle "Dixie," he listens to it on his tape player in the basement while making lead bullets for his Civil War-era rifle.

Such behavior provokes his wife, Mary, who then begins her own refrain of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" from the top of the stairs.

Their address is Lincoln Park, not Gettysburg. But the War Between the Mates is every bit the house divided that the War Between the States was.

"He's a Rebei sympathizer and I'm very much Union," Mary says. "We often get into a fight."

There is, hower, at least one point they agree upon as the 176th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth approaches Tuesday: That their blood connection with Civil War history is real because of a man named Louis Lambert Beaubien.

Beaubien — Mary's great-great-grandfather — was a .40-year-old Ecorse carpenter when he enlisted with the 24th Michigan Infantry on Aug. 13, 1862, for a bounty of \$25 and a monthly salary of \$11, according to military pension ecords.



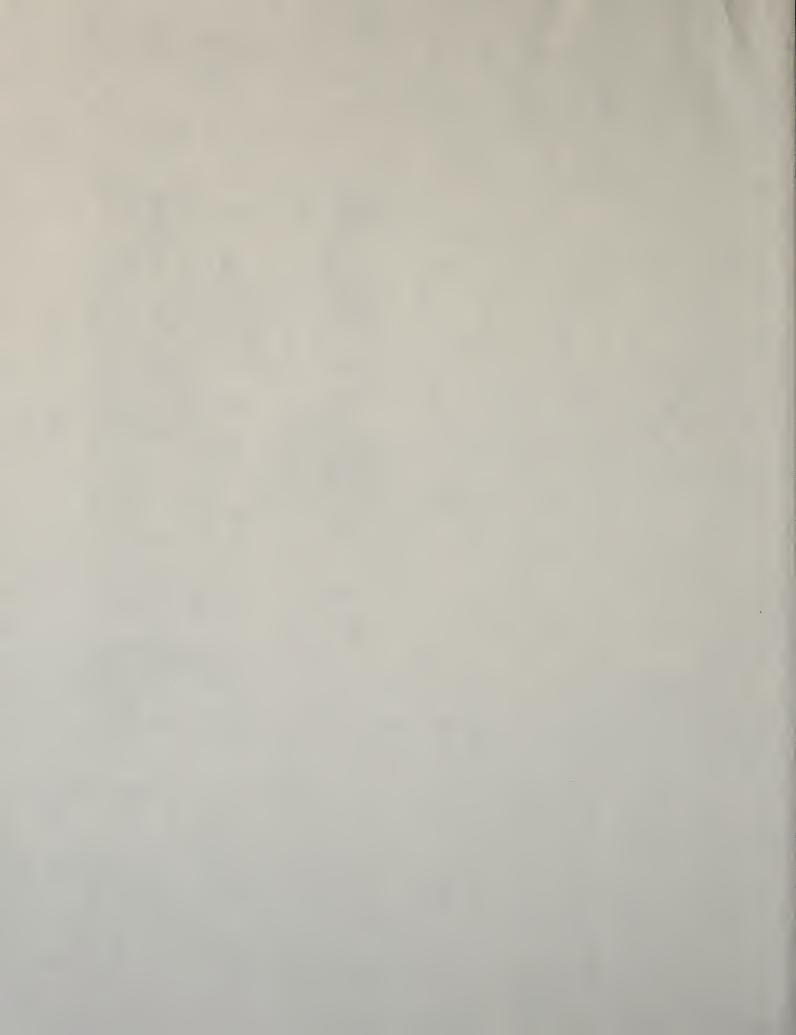
Mary and George Kalamas: "He's a Rebel sympathizer and I'm very much Union," Mary says.

Though he fought at Gettysburg, where there were 51,000 casualties in three days, the only injury Beaubien suffered during the war was the loss of his big toe, which he severed while chopping wood.

It was on the night of April 14, 1865, that Beaubien's fate crossed that of President Lincoln's, accord-

See COUPLE, Page 8A





Couple won't forget War Between States

COUPLE, from Page 1A

ing to his Free Press obituary in 1911.

Beaubien was on sentry duty at an Army barracks in Washington, D.C., near Ford's Theatre when Lincoln went to see "Our American Cousin." Of course, John Wilkes Booth cut the evening short with a derringer bullet to the back of Lincoln's head.

After doctors in the theater said there was no chance for recovery, four soldiers who had been watching the play carried Lincoln out of the theater. They were met at the door by Beaubien and another soldier, who helped carry the president to a house across the street.

Beaubien then stood guard outside the house until Lincoln died, the next morning. Though he never rose above the rank of private, Beaubien carved his own niche in history.

MARY'S RESEARCH into the life of her great-great-grandfather began five years ago when a friend asked her to join the Downriver Genealogical Society.

"I said, 'No,' at first," Mary says. "I mean, how many people even know what 'genealogy' means?

"Now I've got the genealogy bug You don't stop: there's always something to look for."

While she has collected all sorts of newspaper articles, books and govern-

Trace your roots

People interested in researching their family tree can call Marge Emery of the Downriver Genealogical Society at 383-7171. 9 to 5 weekdays.

ment records on her ancestors all the way back to the mid-1700s, she is mostly fascinated by Beaubien.

"He's my hero," she says.

IT JUST so happened her research nicely coincided with her husband's greatest passion in life: the Civil War.

George Kalamas, who works as an analyst for General Motors Corp. in Warren, goes out to his car at lunchtime to read books such as "This Hallowed Ground," by the late Michigan author, Bruce Catton.

Every year, the Kalamases and their three children participate in the Muzzieloaders Festival at Greenfield Village. George makes bullets all year long in his basement, where he displays a confederate flag, empty bottles of Rebel Yell bourbon and a license plate that says, "Forget, Hell"

George can't forget what happened to the South

Mary wouldn't let him

And neither would Mr. Beaubien





The Lincoln

An affiliate of The Mellus Newspapers . . . Michigan s

Wednesday, April 10, 1985

1661 Fort Street, Lincoln Park, Michigan

When Lincoln died

Her great-great-grandfather carried body 120 years ago

"It was on Good Friday night. April 14, 1865, when President Abraham Lincoln, sitting in the state box with his party in the Ford Theater, in Washington, D.C., was shot down by John Wilkes Booth Details of the assassination and subsequent turmoil are matters of record. But, now, after 120 years, it is possible to supply a missing link to the chain of that evening's events." — Mary Kalamas, April 1985.

By MAVIS McKINNEY Staff Writer

LINCOLN PARK — The above passage, written by Lincoln Parker Mary Kalamas, is the beginning of her story about a detailed and time-consuming search that led her to the discovery that her great-great-grandfather. Louis Lambert Beaubien of Ecorse, was one of six men who helped carry the mortally wounded president from the Ford Theater after the shooting.

But, as the 120th anniversary of Lincoln's assassination approaches this Sunday, Louis Lambert Beaubien's role in the tragic events of that evening are not the only story that Kalamas has to tell.

What began in 1980 as a mission to find out about her family's background has led the former Mary Labadie to the point now that she is compiling information to use in writing two books.

One of the volumes, which she says is "about a quarter done," will be about the 24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, the company her great-great-grandfather belonged to during the Civil War years. The other, which will involve contacting people in France, will be a study about her ancestors, the Labadie family. Kalamas said.

Acknowledging the ambitious scope of her undertakings. Kalamas said she is undaunted by the fact that the book about her greatgreat grandfather will include biographical sketches of the more than 1.000 men who served in the volunteer infantry. Nor is the

(Continued on Page 13-A)



Mary Kalamas shows off pictures of two of the men who helcarry President Abraham Lincoln out of Ford Theater after had been shot April 14, 1865. (Photo by John Simon)

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(Continued from Page 1-A)

mother of three youngsters put off by the fact that her research into the Labadie family has so far taken her from the Detroit River area of 1740 to the town of LaRochelle, in France, at the turn of the 18th Century.

"I have visited gravesites, museums and libraries and done a lot of letter writing," Kalamas said, "There's a lot of research involved in this, and a lot of time. But, I'm interested."

Kalamas' interest and research skills have been honed, however, because of her five-year association with the Downriver Genealogical Society, a group that meets monthly at the Lincoln Park Historical Society headquarters, at 1382 Cleophus.

Among the more unusual bits of information she has gleaned from her research is that, of the six men who assisted in carrying the dying Lincoln from the theater that night, the descendents of three of the men—Beaubien, Jabez Griffiths and Jacob Van Riper—all now live within minutes of each other in Downriver

area communities. However, 120 years ago only her great-grandfather was from this area, Kalamas said.

On April 14, 1865, four of the soldiers assisting Lincoln — Griffiths, Jacob Soles, William Sample and John Corney — were from Allegheny County, Pa., and were members of the Battery C Independent Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Beaubien was from Ecorse and the sixth man, Jacob Van Riper, also with the 24th Michigan Infantry, was from Carleton.

Now. Kalamas said, not only her family, Beaubien's descendants, but also descendants of Van Riper and Griffiths live Downriver. Kalamas said that she still is researching the backgrounds of Beaubien and Van Riper for her book, and would appreciate help from anyone who has pictures or other information about the men. She can be contacted through the Downriver Genealogical Society, or by calling the organization's president, Marge Emery, at 383-7159.





